

UNCLASSIFIED
Report Language
RELEASED IN FULL

A1 a

Refugee Relief in Rwanda

The Committee recommends \$170 million to assist in humanitarian relief efforts for refugees of hostilities in Rwanda. The sudden influx of massive numbers of refugees, consisting of millions of people into Goma, Zaire, and other locations bordering Rwanda has created a crisis requiring immediate response. Only the United States has the airlift and logistical capability, as well as recent experience in this type of operation in Iraq and Bosnia, to provide the necessary relief. The appropriations are required for humanitarian assistance and logistics support to establish and operate airport services at Goma and other locations; provide fuel, logistics support, and maintenance of vehicles and equipment for distribution of water, food supplies, and medical items; establish and operate an air distribution facility in Uganda, or another suitable location, for the collection, storage, and forward movement of relief supplies; transport supplies and equipment; provision of safe water; and to deploy and sustain approximately 4,000 U.S. troops.

While fully supporting this operation, the Committee is, nevertheless, concerned about the lack of burden-sharing among the international community, excepting the French. Second, while the Committee fully supports the refugee relief mission, it does not support expanding that mission to security or peacemaking between the warring factions of Rwanda. Therefore, it opposes introducing U.S. forces into Rwanda until the security situation is stabilized there by the peacekeeping organization tasked by the UN to do so, UNAMIR. The Administration is also required to report by September 1, 1994, on its efforts to widen the net of donor nations and international organizations so the burden is more equitably shared -- in money, personnel, and resources. The language would terminate our aid and presence by October 1, 1994, unless the Administration requests, and Congress approves, an extension. It is hoped that, by that time, additional relief operations that might be needed can be taken over by other donor nations and organizations.

The U.S. has acted mainly alone in providing this expanded humanitarian effort in Rwanda due to the need for a timely response. In the normal course of events, this effort should be organized and run by the United Nations. The Committee believes therefore, that the Administration should ask that the United Nations credit the \$170 million herein recommended, in addition to any funds that are contributed by the State Department in the context of the action on the Foreign Operations Appropriations bill for FY 95, against the past due assessments of the United States to the United Nations.

Should insist that